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THE SCHOOL STANDING ATTAINED BY CANADIAN CHILDREN 1931

The proportion of pupils in the high school grades of Canadian schools ranges between ten and fifteen percent in the different provinces. But this does not give an adequate conception of the proportion of the population that is receiving a high school education. In order to show this, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics has compiled the following school-life table of Canadian children attending schools that employ the common grading system. The table is derived from the age-grade tables that have been compiled for seven provinces for the past eight or ten years. There are no such data in existence for British Columbia or Quebec Protestant schools, but the number of their pupils is insufficient to affect seriously the validity of the figures below for the elementary and high school grades of the Dominion as a whole. Of 100,000 boys and girls beginning school the following reach the grade specified:

	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Boys and Girls</u>
Grade I	100,000	100,000	100,000
" II	99,168	99,401	99,284
" III	97,924	98,624	98,274
" IV	95,368	96,956	96,112
" V	90,895	93,579	92,237
" VI	83,543	88,328	85,936
" VII	73,413	80,914	77,163
" VIII	61,845	71,812	66,829
" IX	42,684	53,798	48,241
" X	28,762	37,895	33,329
" XI (Middle School)	17,382	23,000	20,191
" XII	5,020	6,397	5,708

The number shown in Grade XII (Upper School in Ontario) does not fully represent the proportion taking the post-graduate high school year, for it is also taught as "first year" in the universities. But it is to be noted from the above that 51.8 p.c. of boys and 71.8 p.c. of girls, or two-thirds of the oncoming population, are getting as far as the entrance to high school. Almost half of all are doing some high school work,-- 42.7 p.c. of the boys and 53.8 p.c. of the girls; and one-fifth are

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Reaching the final or matriculation year,-- 17.3 p.c. of the boys and 23.0 p.c. of the girls. The advantage of the girls is greatest in the advanced years, but exists in smaller degree all the way through school. Its cumulative effect is to give the average girl half a year's more education than the average boy,-- 8.5 years as compared with 8.0 years for the boy.

Comparing the foregoing table with a similar table that has been prepared by the Office of Education for schools of the United States, the most striking contrast is probably that which occurs between Grades VIII and IX. In Canada, it will be noted, 72 p.c. of those who reach the entrance grade continue into high school studies. In the United States, while the number reaching Grade VIII is practically the same, those going on into Grade IX are only 54 p.c. In other words, of an equal number of Grade VIII pupils in each country, for every three of the Americans that will study in Grade IX, four of the Canadians will. The explanation seems to lie in the high proportion of Canadian children who find it possible to continue their studies for one or two years beyond the entrance grade in rural schools.



